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## GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

## WILSON URGES PRESIDENT CLINTON NOT TO WAIVER ON THE AGREEMENTS OF THE BAY-DELTA ACCORD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SACRAMENTO — Governor Pete Wilson has sent a letter to President Bill Clinton urging him to direct the Department of the Interior not to alter the agreements of the Bay-Delta Accord. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is intending to dedicate Central Valley Project water above the Accord's 1.1 million acre-feet level for the proposed purpose of "additional Delta fishery benefits."

This decision could result in the loss to California's urban and agricultural water users of amounts of water considerably in excess of the up to 1.1 million acre-feet already dedicated to environmental purposes by the Accord and the implementing State plan.

"The Principles of the Agreement on Bay-Delta Standards signed by California and the federal government in 1994 is regarded throughout California as a hallmark of state, federal and stakeholder cooperation," Wilson wrote. "It is with that same spirit that the vested groups have undertaken the task of attaining the goals of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Our mutual objective is to find permanent and equitable solutions to the water supply, water quality, and environmental problems facing the San Francisco Bay, Sacramento — San Joaquin Delta Estuary, a region critical to the water needs of 22 million Californians."

"However, recent actions by the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on the fishery flow provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992 imperil the Accord."

"Therefore, I respectfully request, as well, that you direct the Department of the Interior to implement the CVPIA within the context of the Accord and the CALFED framework agreement. In the CALFED program, we have laid a course to a permanent resolution of California's water wars. To breach this agreement now — as the proposed USFWS fishery flow levels would do — would be unfathomable given the years of cooperative effort behind us and the prospect of solutions only a year away."

-30-

ATTACHED IS THE GOVERNOR'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT.